

Endeavors.

A. A. Tobias, Secretary of the Lexington church, Ohio, which, as he says, has no regular pastor, sends me the names of sisters Julia Lowman, Sarah Baker, Mahala Nisbeth, and adds: "Feeling an interest in the cause, I shall feel under obligations to assist the sisters in this church in whatever way I can to organize a branch society, and hoping that you may not think that I have in any way taken the privilege away from the pastor."

Thank you brother, you have done for me an acceptable service. The assistance you kindly offer those good sisters, I hope may be received thankfully. You have taken no exclusive privilege from the pastor, either. I merely requested the pastors to send me addresses that I could get a way into their church by which to get branch societies firmly established. There shall be no permanent officers in these associations. They shall all be elected annually by an action of their own society, and consist of one President, one Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer, who shall constitute the executors for the administration of all affairs pertaining to the society. All members shall have equal rights. We intend these organizations for reforming schools, and a means by which the sisters can provide a fund for the support of an evangelist in the Brethren church.

Lizzie M. Beeghly, Nat. Mil. Home, Ohio, in a letter to Mrs. Bessie Perry, our Secretary, writes: "I received your letter some time ago, and have been waiting for an opportunity to consult some of the sisters. First, we do not fully comprehend how the work is to be done, but would be willing to do all we can. We think the pamphlets would be very good. It would be quite a help. We would be pleased to have the work fully explained, if possible."

Consulting the sisters is a good plan. That is the best one the Board has yet adopted, and find it succeeding beyond our expectations. It would require too much time and space to give full instructions about how the work is to be done. Soon the Constitution and By-laws will be printed in the EVANGELIST—through the kindness of our editor—and then you will know more about it, but still instructions and explanations are needed. Continue your expressions with each other until the constitution appears. Then consult your pastor and sisters and make preliminary arrangements. After some services, when your pastor and delegates to the Ashland convention can be present, call a special meeting for effecting an organization. Have them present the subject, or do so yourself, in brief and pleasing addresses, stating the importance and necessity of woman's work in the church. Elect a Chairman and Secretary, *pro tem*, and request each person to become an active or honorary member, securing their names. Then read and adopt the constitution and by-laws, and appoint a committee to nominate permanent officers. This committee shall have the good of the cause at heart, and select sisters suited to the duties assigned them. Receive the report of your committee and elect your officers for the year, or appoint another meeting and adjourn, which will give your committee time to decide as to those most suitable and be sure of their giving this work their earnest and prayerful attention. Your officers are then at liberty to carry out the directions and provisions of your constitution and by-laws, performing them to the best of their ability.

Another letter to sister Perry from sister Dora Domer, Manchester, Ind., says: "After some delay I shall write you in answer to your request, though I hardly know just what to say. I have consulted some of the sisters, and they all express themselves willing to engage in any work that would be for the upbuilding of the cause of Christ. They thought best to write you and have you give us a full understanding of the work,—what it is to be. I have the idea of having pamphlets printed to give us directions how to proceed, especially those of us who have been raised up under German Baptist government, perfectly ignorant of anything of this kind. I have often thought we, as a people, have been behind almost all other churches in this respect. While in the old church we did not dare to even speak of anything of the kind, but

thanks be to God, we have come out from under that law and are a free people to do what God requires of us. I shall drop the subject, wishing you the blessing of God in your undertaking."

The object of the S. S. C. E., is the upbuilding of the cause of Christ. Mrs. Perry is perfectly willing and capable of explaining our work. The pamphlet that is first printed shall contain the constitution and by-laws. By the aid of these our sisters can organize and govern societies. You are correct, we are behind most of the churches in this respect, but we mean to get even with them yet. We will have to make up for lost time by working that much harder.

Bessie Perry writes: "May God bless our work. Let us not forget to pray as well at work and I think we will succeed."

Our lives should be one prayer of thanksgiving and supplication. Prayer fills our souls with abundance, making them complete. When we pray earnestly and truthfully for a good, we work for the accomplishment of that good. Soulful prayer manifests itself in good works. The body performs the promptings of the mind. If the mind drinks from an everlasting fountain, sparkling crystals from the soul, kept pure by the holy spirit, it governs the material, urging it on to renewed efforts, pushing it out into the unseen and unknown, making a hero indeed. Yes, dear sister, "God bless our work." Pray, pray earnestly, pray truthfully pray unceasingly, and we shall succeed. True living is true working. True working is true prayer. Pray.

M. M. STERLING.

Masontown, Pa.

Brighton, Ind.

Brethren R. K. Binkley and Wm. Summers began meeting the 26th inst. The weather has been very disagreeable so far. Up to this time five have united by relation and two came out for baptism. Our communion was held last night. Though the weather was stormy there was a good attendance of brethren and sisters. The tables were full and a very enjoyable communion it was for us all. An aged brother who united with us from the United Brethren, said it was the most enjoyable communion he ever participated in.

Bro. Summers leaves this morning and Bro. Binkley will stay to continue the meeting, then he will give a full report.

M. E. HORNER.

From Buchanan, Michigan.

DEAR EVANGELIST:—As I have some more good news, I thought I would report again. On the evening of the 26th of November, Bro. L. W. Ditch came to us and commenced a series of meetings, which continued until the evening of Dec. 18, during which time saint and sinner received their portion from Bro. Ditch, who is not ashamed to declare the whole Gospel of Christ. Saints were encouraged and sinners were made to tremble. As an immediate result, nine united with the church,—five by baptism and four by relation. On the evening of the 15th, we held a very enjoyable and we trust profitable communion service. Trust it may have its desired effect upon all present, that we may all receive spiritual strength and be the better qualified for the duties of life.

Now Bro. Bauman, don't think that the Irish Grove church was the only place visited by S. S. Mohler. He was here in all his power. There were two others with him, but they were only side shows. Mohler was the committee, and the result of one day's work so far is an organized Brethren Church with 38 members, and good prospects for more in the near future. Your proposition meets my hearty approval. Keep him busy, for where is the brother who can beat his record. More anon.

I. N. MILLER.

Dec. 30th, 1887.

Only a Child.

I came up stairs this morning into the room where my little niece, Lizzie Lee Provins, was quietly reading the last EVANGELIST. As I approached her chair, she extended me the paper with an intense expression in her large liquid eyes, at the same time saying, "Here, Aunt Mary, I

want you to read that." She was pointing to an article of J. H. Palmer. I took the paper, still gazing at her beautiful face, made radiant from a fire within, kept burning in her soul, whose light was struggling out into this great and vacant world, unmindful of its cold reception, unconscious of the dreary spot it warms. She pleaded, and I ran my eyes hastily over it, observing the ill treatment that the brethren had received near Warsaw, Ind. I no longer wondered that the depths of a child's simplicity had been reached. Her mind had grasped just enough of its import to awaken nature and decide her sympathies for right. The feeling of injustice done by some one far away, for something not half understood, to some one all unknown to her, but bound by ties that bind us all, did not spring from knowledge of the world, and "man's inhumanity to man," but alone from the divine germ implanted in the childish heart, ready to burst and bloom whenever moistened by the gentle dews of heaven. It is strange how much more children know of the tender love of Christ than some men who have lived in his service many years. (?)

M. M. STERLING.

An Inebriate Cured.

A few years ago a gentleman residing in Dublin, was sojourning near Cork, on account of his health. He was a confirmed inebriate, and had nearly wrecked his life by indulgence in strong drink. At a prayer meeting which was held near the Metropolitan Hall, Dublin, his sister, a goodly Christian woman, sent a petition saying, "Pray for a poor drunkard who is killing himself soul and body, with strong drink." Prayers were offered in his behalf by those assembled.

At this very time, as was afterwards learned, this gentleman was sitting with his wife by the fireside, when he took up the bottle which stood before him and dashed it into the grate saying,

"I'll not taste it any more; I'll not taste it any more."

From that time he abandoned the use of strong drink, and not only that, but was led to seek the mercy and salvation of the Lord. It was impossible that he should know anything of the prayers that were being offered in his behalf more than a hundred miles distant, but the Lord knew and heard and answered the prayer. And this incident was related to me by a surgeon who was present when the prayer was offered, and who knew all the parties concerned.

There are but three classes of men: The retrograde, the stationary and the progressive.—Davat'er.

A God alone can comprehend a God.—Young.
Good humor is the health of the soul, sadness its poison.—Stanislaus.

The first point of wisdom is to discern that which is false, the second to know that which is true.—Lactantius.

God takes men's hearty desires and will instead of the deed, where they have not the power to fulfill it; but he never took the bare deed instead of the will.—Baxter.

Speech is the index of the mind.—Seneca.

In the world a man lives in his own age; in solitude, in all the ages.—William Matthews.

The heart that is soonest awake to the flowers, Is always the first to be touched by the thorns.

—Moore.

Sensibility would be a good portress if she had but one hand; with her right she opens the door to pleasure, but with her left to pain.—Colton.

A divine ought to calculate his sermon as an astrologer does his almanac—in the meridian of the place and people where he lives.—Hughes.

He that knows himself, knows others; and he that is ignorant of himself, could not write a very profound lecture on other men's heads.—Colton.

There are so many tender and holy emotions flying about in our inward world, which like angels can never assume the body of an outward act; to many rich and lovely flowers spring up which bear no seed, that it is a happiness poetry was invented, which receives into its limbus all incorporeal spirits, and the perfume of all these flowers.—Jean Paul.